IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 52 to 53 and add new claims 54 to 55.

42. (Currently Amended) A cleansing method, comprising:

(a) ~~obtaining a first material, the first material containing a polymer having acrylonitrile and at least one of a styrene and conjugated diene~~ providing a cleansing processing agent comprising:

a polymer having an acrylonitrile unit;

a unit selected from the group consisting of styrene, conjugated diene, and a combination thereof;

hydrophilic groups being introduced into said acrylonitrile unit by adding an acid or an alkali thereto;

ion groups being introduced into said unit selected from the group consisting of styrene, conjugated diene, and a combination thereof, said polymer comprising 5 to 80 mol% of said unit selected from the group consisting of styrene, conjugated diene and a combination thereof;

~~(b) contacting the polymer with an acid or an alkali to hydrolyze the acrylonitrile to form hydrophilic substituents in the acrylonitrile and to form a hydrolyzed polymer;~~

~~(c)~~ (b) contacting ~~the hydrolyzed polymer~~ said agent with a material to be cleaned, the material to be cleaned containing at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and amine compound; and

~~(d)~~ (c) absorbing the at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and an amine compound from the material to be cleaned.

43. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is effluent water or an exhaust gas that is passed through a column charged ~~with the hydrolyzed polymer~~ said agent.

44. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein ~~the hydrolyzed polymer~~ said agent is dispersed into effluent water.

45. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is a solid material.

46. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein ~~the hydrolyzed polymer~~ said agent is sprayed onto the material to be cleaned.

47. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is soil in a landfill.

48. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is odor-emitting material.

49. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the polymer comprises 5 to 80 mol % of an acrylonitrile unit.

50. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of an acryolnitrile-butadiene-styrene resin (ABS), a styrene-acrylonitrile resin (SAN), and an acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (ABR).

51. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the acid is sulfuric acid.

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Cancelled)

54. (New) A cleansing method, comprising:

contacting a hydrolyzed polymer with a material to be cleaned, the material to be cleaned containing at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and an amine compound; and

absorbing the at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and an amine compound from the material to be cleaned;

wherein the hydrolyzed polymer is prepared by a process comprising

(I) polymerizing monomers to form a polymer, the monomers comprising

(i) a monomer containing as acrylonitrile group;

(ii) styrene; and

(iii) a monomer containing a conjugated diene, and

(II) hydrolyzing the polymer.